

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 SY-05 FBO-02 A-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W

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P R 071020Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4282

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENTIANE 4073

MANILA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB

5. APPEAL WAS THEN MADE THAT ALL USAID EMPLOYEES RETURN AT 1400 TO GATHER IN FRONT OF BUILDING 100 AS A VISIBLE DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE NEGOTIATORS. ALSO DURING THE MORNING BROADCASTS, IT WAS STATED THAT USAID EMPLOYEES SHOULD NOT PICK UP THEIR PAY BUT SHOULD WAIT UNTIL THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. HOWEVER IF ANYONE DID NOT WANT TO SUPPORT THE USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE, THEY COULD PICK UP THEIR PAY BUT THAT ONCE THEY HAD PICKED IT UP THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RECEIVE ANY OF THE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS THAT MIGHT RESULT FROM SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS. AT APPROXIMATELY 1330, THE LOUD SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENTS BEGAN AGAIN WITH VERY INFLAMMATORY ORATORY BLASTING THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS AND THE MANNER IN WHICH THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS HAD USED LAOS, AS A RATIONALE FOR THE ADDITIONAL DEMAND, WITH REPEATED APPEALS FOR PEOPLE TO ASSEMBLE IN FRONT OF BUILDING 100.

6. BY 1345, BY ACTUAL HEADCOUNT, THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 250 PEOPLE STANDING IN FRONT OF BUILDING 100 ACROSS THE STREET IN FRONT OF THE ACA, APPROXIMATELY 75 PEOPLE STANDING ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF BUILDING 100 AND ON THE PORCH LEADING IN TO THE
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MAIN ENTRANCE OF BUILDING 100, AND ABOUT 40 PEOPLE INSIDE THE MAIN CORRIDOR OF BUILDING 100 JUST OUTSIDE THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE.

7. THE BROADCASTER REQUESTED THAT AT JUST BEFORE 1400 HRS, WHEN THE USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE NEGOTIATORS RE-ENTERED THE COMPOUND, THE LAO EMPLOYEES SHOULD DEMONSTRATE THEIR SUPPORT BY CLAPPING AND CHEERING. AS THE SIX PROTESTOR NEGOTIATORS ENTERED THE COMPOUND, THE CROWD RESPONDED AS INSTRUCTED. ABOUT TEN MINUTES BEFORE THE NEGOTIATORS RE-ENTERED THE COMPOUND, AT APPROXIMATELY 1405 HRS, STUDENT PROTESTORS AND USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS ENTERED BUILDING 100, WHERE 6 TO 8 OF THEM POSITIONED THEMSELVES INSIDE OF BUILDING 100 AT THE REAR DOOR AND A LIKE NUMBER POSITIONED THEMSELVES INSIDE AT THE FRONT DOOR. ALONG THE MAIN CORRIDOR INSIDE BUILDING 100 THERE WERE ALSO APPROXIMATELY 25 TO 30 PROTESTORS AND USAID LAO EMPLOYEES. WHEN THE USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE NEGOTIATORS ENTERED BUILDING 100, THE TWO MAIN ENTRANCE AND EXIT GATES TO THE COMPOUND WERE CLOSED, AND THE GATES WERE TAKEN OVER BY STUDENTS AND USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS THE VIENTIANE-SIDE AND THE LPF-SIDE POLICE HAD BECOME CONSPICUOUS BY THEIR ABSENCE SINCE 1345. THESE STUDENTS

AND USAID PROTESTOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS MANNING THE GATES TO THE COMPOUND HAD M-16 RIFLES STACKED INSIDE THE GUARDHOUSE ENCLOSURES. AT THIS POINT, (APPROXIMATELY 1410 HRS), BUILDING 100 AND THE GATES IN-AND-OUT OF THE NA HAI DIAO COMPOUND WERE ENTIRELY IN THE CONTROL OF STUDENTS AND USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTORS.

8. WHEN THE PROTEST COMMITTEE NEGOTIATORS ENTERED THE USAID DIRECTOR'S OFFICE IN BUILDING 100, APPROXIMATELY 30 PEOPLE CONVERGED IN FRONT OF THAT DOOR AND MAINTAINED THEIR PRESENCE THERE UNTIL THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLETED. THIS GROUP INCLUDED USAID LAO EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS AND USAID PROTESTORS, AND INCLUDED THE MOST HOSTILE ELEMENTS FROM EACH GROUP.

9. AT APPROXIMATELY 1450 HRS, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE USAID PROTESTOR COMMITTEE CAME OUT OF THE BUILDING 100 TO THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET BETWEEN BUILDING 100 AND THE ACA TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED TO PAY AN ADDITIONAL THREE MONTHS SALARY. (THIS WAS A FABRICATION TO STIR UP THE CROWD, BECAUSE AT THAT POINT, FINAL AGREEMENT HAD NOT BEEN REACHED). LOUD CHEERING AND CLAPPING GREETED THIS ANNOUNCEMENT. WHEN THE CROWD QUIETED DOWN THE USAID PROTESTOR CHAIRMAN SHOUTED, WITH BROAD AND WILD GESTURES, TO BOTH ENDS OF THE COMPOUND
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TO THE PERSONS GUARDING THE GATES THAT THE GATES SHOULD BE OPENED. THE MESSAGE WAS NOT RECEIVED AT THE GATES AND THUS SEVERAL PEOPLE SHOUTED TO BOTH ENDS OF THE COMPOUND TO OPEN THE GATES. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE LPF MIXED POLICE APPEARED AT THE GATES AND TWO OF THEM WALKED THROUGH THE CENTER OF THE COMPOUND NEAR THE ACA. THE PROTESTOR ANNOUNCER SCREAMED OVER AND OVER THAT THE IMPERIALIST AMERICANS HAD ADMITTED DEFEAT AND THEREFORE HAD ACCEPTED LAO LAW AND RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY OF LAOS. THE CROWDS REMAINED OUTSIDE OF BUILDING 100, AT THE ACA, UNTIL ABOUT 1700 HRS AT WHICH TIME THE CROWD BEGAN TO DISSIPATE. ABOUT HALF OF THE CROWD REMAINED UNTIL THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN COMPLETED.

10. AT TWO POINTS - BETWEEN 1500 AND THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT AT 1745, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE USAID EMPLOYEE PROTESTORS COMMITTEE RETURNED TO THE OUTSIDE OF BUILDING 100 TO GO ON THE LOUDSPEAKER SYSTEM TO PRESENT THE DETAILS OF WHAT WAS BEING NEGOTIATED AND AGREED UPON AND TO ASK FOR THE CROWD'S APPROVAL WHICH IN BOTH INSTANCES WAS GIVEN. THE MOOD OF THE CROWD OUTSIDE OF BUILDING 100 WHICH DURING THE MORNING HAD BEEN JOCKULAR AND FRIENDLY CHANGED IN THE AFTERNOON AFTER 1400 HRS TO ONE OF SERIOUSNESS, NO SMILES AND DISTINCT UNFRIENDLINESS. THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS WHO HAD JOINED THE USAID PROTESTORS OUTSIDE THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE INCREASED THEIR AGITATOR ROLE AS THE AFTERNOON PROGRESSED. LAO-SPEAKING USAID AMERICANS HEARD AND REPORTED TO THE ACTING USAID DIRECTOR THE;!KQ!09F!""? 4GQB(<0T(6?*0=WI 8AC(#(U@(*Y#HP|*F8=EKFFVQJT(\$B#J @/*5QCT6"R#;T,JT*0?(@|@E<C_.D.5QRE,(PJEIG !

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Type: TE
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